

**EMT-II REGULATORY TASK FORCE
MEETING MINUTES
October 13, 2005
EMS Authority
Sacramento, CA**

I. Introductions

Self-introductions were made.

MEMBERS PRESENT	EMSA STAFF PRESENT	ALTERNATES PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	ALTERNATES ABSENT
Steve Drewniany	Sean Trask	Stephanie Rasmussen	Deb Aspling	Howard Fincher
Kevin White	Julie Hamilton	Louis Bruhnke	Cliff Flud	Lawson Stuart
Bonny Martignoni		Conference Call	Lisa Howell	Chet Ward
Kelly Lazarus		Ruth Grubb	Larry Karstead	Wes Podboy
		Ron Grider	Frank Maas	
		Bob May	Tim Williams	
		Tom McGinnis	Kathy Ochoa	
		Debbie Becker	Ed Pendergast	
		Ron Grider		
		John Pritting	Vicki Stevens	
		Bruce Haynes	Janet Terlouw	
		Debbie Bervel		

II. Minutes:

- A. Approved with the following change –under item B. “Role and mission of the EMT-II” should insert language after In terms of reimbursement to state, “based on Medicare regulations” in the sentence.

III. Agenda:

A. Changes

1. Delete Item IV. A. under Old Business titled Educational Subcommittee.
2. Move Item IV B, Draft EMT-II Curriculum to Item IV A.
3. Move Item IV D, Role and Mission of the EMT-II to Item IV B

- B. Approval – Agenda was approved with the changes noted above.

IV. Old Business:

- A. **Draft EMT-II Curriculum-** Draft modules 1 through IV were distributed electronically to the Task Force members for their review. In the interest of saving time, the Task Force agreed to review the draft modules and provide comments to Debbie Becker. The California Council of EMS Educators (C2E2) recently had their quarterly membership meeting and requested the Task Force to require an entrance exam for admission to an EMT-II training program. The California Paramedic Program Directors (CPPD) also favors the requirement for an entrance examination to the EMT-II training program. Some of the members indicated that community colleges are prohibited from requiring an entrance examination for their courses, because it could be considered discriminatory. The Task Force addressed this issue at May 12, 2005 Task Force meeting and agreed at that time not to require an entrance examination for admission to the EMT-II course. C2E2 also recommends that the model curriculum that the EMT-II Task Force develops to be the only required curriculum. The Task Force at the May 12, 2005 meeting also recommended incorporating the model curriculum by reference as a guideline so that amendments, if any, to the model curriculum could be made without

having to complete the entire rulemaking process. The Task Force was reminded that guidelines are not enforceable but regulations are enforceable because regulations are a body of law whereas guidelines are not a body of law. Chief May stated that their EMT-II training program requires a current CPR card and EMT-I as a prerequisite for EMT-II classes and stated that their EMT-II course is effective in removing students who do not maintain a passing grade in the course. Both the CPPD and C2E2 members forwarded three of the five modules of the draft model curricula to their members for review and will provide feedback to the EMT-II Task Force when their review is complete. John Pritting stated that when he drafted the model curriculum he abstracted the relevant topics from the U. S. Department of Transportation's EMT-Intermediate National Standard Curriculum and that he uses the draft curriculum in his EMT-I Optional Skills and trial study courses for EMT-I's in his jurisdiction.

On another note, the Task Force members recommended retaining the Mark 1 kits in the EMT-I Regulations under Optional Skills. The California Professional Firefighters indicated that they would support Mark 1 kits in the EMT-I Regulations as long as the statute allowed EMT-I's to use the Mark 1 kits.

- B. Role and mission of the EMT-II** The Commission on EMS recommended, at their September 21, 2005 meeting, that the EMT-II Task Force insert some language to the EMT-II Regulations requiring a public hearing to consider a downgrade of services from a paramedic level of service to EMT-II level of service. Certain Commissioners on the EMS Commission referred to Section 1797.201 of the Health and Safety Code in reference to the requirement of a public hearing before a reduction in the level of services. Certain members of the EMS Commission were not comfortable with the language that the EMT-II Task Force approved that was inserted in Section 100105 (c) pertaining to the written notification to the local governing board of the displacement of paramedic services by EMT-II services. Prior to this Task Force meeting, the California Fire Chiefs Association along with the California Professional Firefighters with concurrence from the California Ambulance Association agreed to propose the following language regarding Section 100126 of the EMT-II Regulations in order to expedite the discussion on the role and mission of the EMT-II:

(a) A local EMS Agency with an EMT-II system shall establish policies and procedures for the approval, designation and evaluation through its continuous quality improvement program of EMT-II service provider(s). These policies and procedures shall include but not limited to:

(1) Request for EMT-II service provider authorization shall be submitted to the publicly elected governing body(ies) of the jurisdiction(s) to be serviced by the EMT-II service provider and will include the geographic restrictions, population density of jurisdiction receiving Limited Advanced Life Support (LALS), and resource allocation showing that establishing or maintaining a paramedic level of service is not feasible.

(2) Application for approval as an EMT-II service provider shall be submitted to the LEMSA along with the authorization of the publicly elected governing body(ies) of the jurisdiction(s) to be serviced by the EMT-II service provider.

During the discussion the following points were made:

- 1) The purpose of Section 1797.201 of the Health and Safety Code was not intended for a LEMSA to be required to have a public hearing when considering the implementation of an EMT-II level of service for their EMS system. Instead Section 1797.201 was intended for the protection of fire departments with EMS programs.
- 2) Requiring a governing board to authorize an EMT-II level of service is counter productive because the LEMSA is charged by the local governing board with the function of authorizing and approving EMT-II services.
- 3) Public safety agencies that are seeking authorization or approval of EMT-II services will have their governing board's approval regardless of the regulations.
- 4) The regulations should specify two tests when considering EMT-II services, first are EMT-II or EMT-Paramedic services appropriate and second, are they feasible.

The Task Force members present agreed to the following amendments to the draft language of Sections 100105 and 100126:

- a) Section 100105 (a): strike the words, "Limited Advanced Life Support" and add, "met the requirements of Section 100126 of this Chapter," after the word "has" in the first sentence, add the words, "appropriate or" before the word, "feasible."
- b) Section 100105 (d): add, "establishment of new EMT-II services or," before the word "displacement", and add the words, "or inappropriate," after the word "feasible".
- c) Section 100126 (a) (1): the phrase, "and will include the geographic restrictions, population density of jurisdiction receiving Limited Advanced Life Support (LALS), and resource allocation showing that establishing or maintaining a paramedic level of service is not feasible," was struck because it is stated in Section 100105 (a) and keeping this phrase in this section is redundant.
- d) In the Note and Reference sections Section 1797.2 was added.

C. Draft EMT-II Regulations- The Task Force agreed to replace the term., "limited advanced life support," with the term, "EMT-II" throughout the document. The Task Force members present also agreed to add statement, "Live scan or criminal background check from the California Department of Justice" to Section 100123, Certification for consistency because it is included in Section 100124, Maintaining EMT-II Certification but not in Section 100123 .

V. Discussion

- A. Review of Action Items-** There was a reminder to the Task Force members to come to all Task Force meetings prepared to vote on issues that represent their respective group's positions. The Task Force also agreed to hold to the December 2005 timeline for completion of the EMT-II Chapter. The Task Force also agreed to hold the December 2005 Task Force meeting in San Francisco which is the day after the EMS Commission meeting. EMSA will look for a meeting room for the Task Force meeting.
- B. Next Meeting-** The next meeting of the EMT-II Task Force will take place on Thursday, November 10, 2005 in Rancho Cucamonga, however the meeting will not be at the Rancho Cucamonga City Hall because the City Hall is closed that day. Stephanie Rassmussen has agreed to find a suitable location for the November meeting.
- C. Adjourn**

Recorder: Julie Hamilton/Sean Trask